# As the flags go down in front of U.S. Army South



Kemuel O. Carrion, son of Jorge Velez, USARSO G8 stands at attention as the U.S. Flag is lowered in front of Building 1000. Young Kemuel, whose father is a Staff Sergeant in the Active Army, was excited to see how USARSO honor's the US Flag.

# Journeying into the Unknown with God

### By Chaplain (MAJ) Mickey D. Jett, USARSO

I have found that life seems to be full of surprises. Some of these surprises bring joy and happiness like when you finally meet that special someone and even greater joy when you experience the birth of your first child. Yet, there are those events that make demands on our faith when the surprise turns out not to be so good.

One of the most remarkable stories I find in the Bible is that of Abraham. For Abraham was a man who was like any one of us in reason, faith and experience and yet he was asked to go to a place he had never been before. I do not know how God broke in on him, but in some way he knew that he had to leave the place he was and journey to another area. I am sure this journey was at times painful and unfamiliar to him and a place of uncertainty. Still, he felt God was with him and so with that certainty he made the journey.

I have found that families are much like that in another way. We may not be moving away to another residence or location, but we find ourselves moving out of the comfortableness of a secure environment to a new place or may be entering a hospital with a sick child, or it may be the insecurity of a failing marriage; the list can go on. Yet, we have to make the journey for there is no alternative. Abraham probably asked a lot of "whys" during his journey much like we do when we experience anxiety and pain for ourselves and our children.

What can we do when we are walking an unwanted path which brings the feelings of insecurity and fear? I believe we can do as Abraham – trust in God. Abraham may not have seen God, nor felt God's presence during the difficult times, but he surely trusted that God would be with him. You may find yourself insecure about your marriage, your parenting ability or even what the future holds, but so did Abraham. It is okay to share with God your feelings of hurt, fear and anxiety, God already knows all about it. God hears the prayers that are in your heart.

### Reenlistment at the Alamo!



Staff Sgt. Jesus Santiago, reenlists in front of the Alamo. Above, CPT Christopher Boris congradulates him.

### National Hispanic Heritage Month, 15 Sep – 15 Oct 05

Every year since 1968, by presidential proclamation, a week has been set aside to honor the contributions of Hispanic-Americans. Recognizing that

a week was not long enough to recognize the Hispanic population's significant achievements and contributions, Congress voted in 1989 to expand this week to a month-long celebration. known as

National Hispanic Heritage Month. For more information related to Hispanic Heritage see the links below:

National IMAGE, Inc <a href="http://">http://</a> www.nationalimageinc.org League of United Latin American Citizens http://www.lulac.org

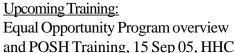
Equal Opportunity Advisors are

seeking volunteers to show off their Hispanic Heritage in the

> areas of dress/ clothing, arts, music, dancing etc.. If you wish to be involved your heritage and educating others about it, please contact the USARSO EOA. contact info listed below.... The National Hispanic

05, details to follow.

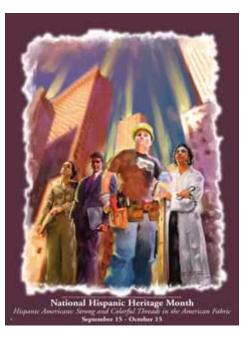




Tng Rm, 1400-1630

Equal Opportunity Representative Course (EORC), 24 Oct – 4 Nov 05

The Fort Sam Houston and USARSO (Please sign up with the USARSO EOA)



Sgt. 1st Class Stephen Ford USARSO Equal Opportunity Advisor

Ofc: 210-295-6499 (DSN: 421)

Cell: 210-573-4894

Loc: Bldg #1000, 6th floor, Rm

#630



I Got A Beef With The System! What steps should I take now?

▼ Be sure you have a problem, not just a peeve.

- Give your chain of command a chance to solve the problem. (Many problems must be addressed to the chain of command for resolution anyway).
- ✓ If IG assistance is needed, contact your local IG first.

  (IG's at higher commands will normally refer the case to the local IG for action)
- ✓ Be honest and don't provide misleading information.
   (IGs will discover the truth quickly in most cases and there are penalties for knowingly providing false information)
  - Keep in mind that IGs are not policy makers.

    (If a policy is flawed you can submit proposed change on a DA form 2028)
- ▼ Keep in mind that IGs can only recommend, not order a resolution.

  (Only Commanders can order; the role of the IG is to advise the Commander)
- ✓ Remember IGs can only resolve a case on the basis of fact. (Your claim that a supervisor has violated the rules doesn't make it fact. A claim must be supported with evidence)
- ✓ Don't expect instant action on your request... Be patient. (Investigations take time, and IGs tend to have heavy workloads)
- **▼** Be prepared to take "No" for the answer.

(In any case "Yes" or "No", the IG will explain why)

Your Local IG is: LTC Reutter, Asst IG: SFC Rodriguez Phone: 295-6327/6688 Commanding General's Hotline: 295-6464

> To complain without fear of reprisal is the right of any Soldier, Civilian, or Family Member seeking IG help. After all, problem solving is one of the IG's primary missions.

September 8, 2005

# US Army South hosts Latin American Caribbean Senior Enlisted Leaders Conference

**By Kevin W. Sieling** *USARSO Public Affairs* 

### (Fort Sam Houston, TX)

The United States Army South hosted the first ever Latin American Armies & Caribbean Defense Forces Senior Enlisted Leader Conference (LAACDFSELC) conference Aug 8 to 12 at the Fort Sam Houston Community Club.

Roughly 70 senior enlisted leaders from 18 countries throughout Central, South America, the Caribbean and the United States convened on Fort Sam Houston to discuss matters of mutual interest and improve coordination, collaboration and synchronization amongst armies in the region. Topics discussed during the week long seminar included the Enlisted Leaders role in Combat, Non-Lethal Tactics, Military Police Riot-Control, Threat-Overview of Gangs in the Region, amongst others.

"We hope the participants leave with a renewed pride in the capability and professionalism of the NCO Corps," said USARSO Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel R. Wood. "Within any NCO Corp is a great amount of experience and expertise. It is an untapped resource in many of our partner nation Armies." Wood also gave background on the USARSO's enlisted initiative.

"The enlisted leader initiative began as a directive from the USSOUTHCOM to engage our partner nation Armies at the NCO level in order to develop stronger, more capable NCO Corps throughout the area of operation. Maj. Gen. John D. Gardner, USARSO commanding general believes the initiative has the greatest potential for long term effects on our partner nation Armies in comparison to other engagement initiatives," said Wood.

USARSO's enlisted initiative also focuses on professional development of senior enlisted militaries in the region. The Command Sergeant Majors Academy began in Colombia last year and has spread throughout the region as popularity grows.

"The outlook is extremely favorable both immediate and long term. Currently five armies have established Sergeant Major of The Army positions as well as Command Sergeant Major positions. Three armies have established CSM courses and one is ready to begin next year," said Wood.

The goal of the seminar is to provide an opportunity for the senior enlisted military officers to build lasting relationships, discuss professional development and receive training on critical military related subjects affecting the Western Hemisphere.

Participating countries are Belize, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago, Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay.

### USARSO Community News Publication Dates



Submit by date

**Publication date** 

Sept 22, 2005

October 7, 2005

Please submit information you would like to have included in the USARSO Newsletter to kevin.sieling@samhouston.army.mil or sandy.ramey@samhouston.army.mil

September 8, 2005

### FSH Weekly Safety Notes

### 1 September 2005

Number of days without a Class A, fatal military Accident? <u>14</u> <u>days</u>

Number days without a Class B or C (lost time) military accident? 77 days

Previous Class C accident: On 15 Jun 05, a Soldier was driving his POV to work and while crossing a four way intersection, a truck passed a red light and collided with the Soldier's Volvo. Soldier received whiplash and injured one of his two children who were passengers in the back seat.

Safety Info of the week: Labor Day 2005 – Drink, Drive, Go To Jail Campaign

As thousands of Texans get ready to enjoy the last major holiday of the summer season, the Texas Department of Transportation expects a significant spike in the number of motorists on Texas roads and highways during the upcoming Labor Day weekend. With an increase in overall traffic comes an increase in alcohol-related crashes, injuries and fatalities.

TxDOT is putting drivers on notice: if motorists drink and drive during the upcoming Labor Day holiday, they're asking for trouble. TxDOT is

### Re-Enlisting at the Alamo



Sgt. Richard Mendoza reenlisted at the Alamo. The reenlistment Officer is Maj. Ramiro Salazar.

joining the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the Texas Department of Public Safety and local law enforcement organizations statewide to get drunk drivers off the road.

Between August 19th and September 5th, hundreds of law enforcement agencies in Texas will be stepping up enforcement of the state's Driving While Intoxicated laws.

Facts on Alcohol Use in Texas: Every day, drunk drivers kill or hurt over 70 people on Texas roads. Source: Texas Department of Public Safety

Texas still leads the nation with

over 1,700 alcohol-related traffic deaths every year. Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

In 2003, 47 percent of all traffic fatalities in Texas involved alcohol, compared to 40 percent for the nation.

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration On average, someone in Texas dies in an alcohol-related traffic crash every five hours. Source: Texas Department of Public Safety

> A LITTLE BREW CAN BLUR YOUR VIEW! Safety Helpline 295-Safe (7233)

### IN & AROUND TEXAS

### New Art in Austin: 22 to Watch"

Date: Aug 20-Oct30

City: Austin

Introduces 22 of Austin's hottest emerging artists whose works stretch the boundaries of contemporary art. Includes artists working in such media as film, painting, embroidery, printmaking, sculpture, interactive electronics, drawing and color photography, as well as installation art incorporating diverse materials such as Post-it notes, comic books, felt, wood, vinyl lettering, metal, cardboard and postcards. Austin Museum of Art, 823 Congress Ave.

### Celebrate Tejano Heritage Month

Date: Sep 1-30 City: San Antonio

Raises awareness and educates people about the legends, legacies and true lives of Tejano pioneers. Features a series of events throughout the month. Visit the Web site for information on specific events.

### Fredericksburg Peach Opry

**Date:** Sep 3, Oct1, Nov5 **City:** <u>Fredericksburg</u>

This is Branson-style opry show with music, comedy entertainment and fun for the whole family. E-mail: thetxpianoman@aol.com

### **Market Day**

Date: Sep 3, Oct1, Nov5

City: Wimberley

Includes more than 450 diverse vendors of antique, arts & crafts, and more. FM 2325 at Lions Field. E-mail: lions@visitwimberley.com

### Bar H Maze at the Farm

Date: Sep 3-Nov27
City: Clarendon

Includes a pumpkin patch, hayrides, cow train, mini mazes, pumpkin launcher, concession stand, hay jump, campfires and chuck-wagon area. Hours are 5 to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, and noon to 10 p.m. Sunday. Hwy. 70 N.

### **Farmers Market**

Date: Sep 3, 10, 17, 24

City: Brenham

Features a variety of food and craft vendors. Brenham's Farmers Market, 307 S. Park St. E-mail: info@brenhamtexas.com

### 19th Annual GrapeFest

Date: Sep 8-11 City: Grapevine

Sample award-winning Texas wines. Visit Grapevine's winery/tasting rooms via complimentary shuttle vans. Get into the action at the competitive Grape Stomp. Enjoy fine wines and great food at the Texas Wine Tribute, a gourmet food and wine pairing pavilion, cooking demonstrations and award-winning chefs. Grapevine's Historic Main Street.

### **AEIOU Festival**

Date: Sep 9-10 City: <u>Uvalde</u>

An Extravaganza in Old Uvalde celebrates the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II. Includes vendor booths, carnival, food, games and more. City Park and Civic Center.

### Champagne Cruise/Mini Taste of Port Aransas

Date: Sep 9
City: Port Aransas

Cruise the channel while sampling the cuisine of island restaurants. Fisherman's Wharf.

### The Austin Symphony

Date: Sep 9-10
City: Austin

Anne Akiko Meyers, violinist, and Peter Bay, conductor. Begins at 8 p.m. Bass Concert Hall

### Septemberfest

Date: Sep 9-11

Three-day arts & crafts festival features "Kinderfest" for kids, food, entertainment and more. Museum of the Southwest, 1705 W. Missouri. E-mail: cmladenka@museumsw.org

### **Quadrangle Street Festival**

Date: Sep 10-11 City: <u>Texarkana</u>

Enjoy a weekend of entertainment and shopping with artists, craftsmen, antiques, three entertainment stages, street dances with Charlie Robison and Junior Brown, road race and more. Downtown Texarkana. E-mail: texarkanamuseums@cableone.net

### Zest Fest 2005

Date: Sep 10-11
City: Fort Worth

Presents one of the largest collections of zesty gourmet products assembled under one roof. Find sauces, salsas, candies, honeys, potato chips, pesto, nuts, jams, spices, sausages, soups, salad dressings, mustards, beans, ketchup, chutneys and more. Chefs Tim Love of Lonesome Dove Western Bistro in Fort Worth, David Garrido of Jeffrey's of Austin, David McMillan of 62 Main in Colleyville and other

September 8, 2005

### IN & AROUND TEXAS CONTINUED

culinary professionals will demonstrate techniques on the cooking stage. Includes live entertainment and kids activities. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Will Ro...[More]

### Sixth Annual Country Roots Music Festival

Date: Sep 10-11 City: <u>Houston</u>

Features down-home Texas, bluegrass and gospel music by many of Texas' most popular bands. Includes bushel baskets full of mouth-watering, country-style foods from link sausage to smoked turkey legs and more. Shop for country crafts. Traders Village, 7979 N. Eldridge Road. E-mail: mike@tradersvillage.com

# Farmers & Artisans (Market Day)

Date: Sep 10
City: Johnson City

Call or visit Web site for information.

### **Kerr County Market Days**

Date: Sep 10, 24 City: Kerrville

Original handcrafted items are offered for sale. Kerr County Courthouse, 700 Main St.

# <u>Texas Metal Arts — A Festival</u> at Gruene

Date: Sep 10-11 City: <u>Gruene</u>

Twenty five Texas artists including goldsmiths, tinsmiths, silversmiths, blacksmiths, and sculptors demonstrate their techniques, methods, and creative work. Free admission. Gruene Historic District. E-mail: zekeandmarty@netzero.net

#### **Harvest Festival**

Date: Sep 10

Includes a parade, live entertainment, classic car show, arts & crafts and food vendors. Patterson Park. E-mail: chamber@wolfforthtx.us

### Cowboys on Main

Date: Sep 10, 17, 24

City: Bandera

Features cowboy entertainment from a chuck wagon to strolling singers, trick roper and trick horse.

Sponsored by the Frontier Times Museum Living History Project.

Hours are 1 to 4 p.m. Main Street Bandera. E-mail: growthr@texas.net

### Polo Italia & Risotto Festival

Date: Sep 11 City: <u>Houston</u>

Polo, wine, Kid Carnivale, parade of cars, live music, and food (including risotto) from Houston's finest chefs. Houston Polo Club.

#### Sensational Seafood

Date: Sep 13

City: Corpus Christi

Taste mouth-watering Gulf of Mexico delicacies as prepared by local chefs. Hours are 7 to 9 p.m. Aquarium lobby. E-mail: members@txstateaq.org

# 18th Annual Addison Oktoberfest

Date: Sep 15-18 City: <u>Addison</u>

Re-creates the Munich Oktoberfest with more than 30 hours of continuous family oriented entertainment. German entertainers in authentic costumes perform traditional folk dances, schuhplattling, folk songs, oompah music, singalongs, yodels and more. Includes

several types of German food, carnival rides, midway games, children's entertainment, petting zoo, 5-K run, pony rides and more. Addison Arts & Events District, 4970 Addison Circle Drive.

# 137th Annual Washington County Fair

Date: Sep 14-17 City: <u>Brenham</u>

This is the oldest county fair in Texas. Includes Nashville entertainment, rodeos, carnival, crafts, food, livestock and poultry auctions, commercial exhibits and attractions. Washington County Fair Grounds. E-mail: info@brenhamtexas.com

### Earl Klugh

Date: Sep 15
City: Grapevine

Jazz guitarist at the Palace Theatre.

### Pachanga del Rio

Date: Sep 15 City: San Antonio

Hours are 6 to 8:30 p.m. Along the River Walk.

### Mexican Independence Day

Date: Sep 15 City: El Paso

Celebrates the "Grito de Delores" that Padre Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla gave on Sept. 15, 1810, igniting Mexico's rebellion against Spain.

The Mexican Consul General's office honors Mexico's independence with this ceremony, including live music and ballet folkloricos. Begins at 6 p.m. Chamizal National Memorial Amphitheatre.

### Trade Days

Date: Sep 16-18
City: Fredericksburg

### IN & AROUND TEXAS CONTINUED

More than 300 vendors sell antiques, collectibles, tools, primitives, shabby chic, ranch furniture, crafts, unique clothing and jewelry, food and more. Hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Hwy. 290 across from Wildseed Farms.

#### **Fiestas Patrias**

Date: Sep 16-18
City: San Antonio

Commemorates Diez y Seis de Septiembre, Mexico's independence from Spain. Market Square. E-mail: jessemo@sanantonio.com

28906"

#### Gartenkonzert

Date: Sep 16
City: San Antonio

Beethoven Hall and Garden.

### Four States Fair & Rodeo

Date: Sep 16-24 City: <u>Texarkana</u>

Features a carnival, home arts, fine arts, arts & crafts, food, attractions, free nightly entertainment, four nights of PRCA rodeo, demolition derby, free concerts, helicopter rides, art show and livestock show. Four States Fairgrounds. E-mail: tammy@fourstatesfair.com

#### Korea: Heart and Soul

Date: Sep 17-18
City: Austin

Asian cultural event featuring food, cooking, tae kwon do, banquet at the Renaissance, Lotus Lantern Festival, and golf tournament.

### **Old Gruene Market Days**

Date: Sep 17-18
City: Gruene

Nearly 200 vendors offer uniquely crafted items and packaged Texas foods. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### Fiestas Patrias

Date: Sep 17 City: <u>Houston</u>

One of the largest and most colorful community-sponsored parades in the Southwest celebrates Mexico's independence from Spain. Colorfully clad dancers from area ballet folklorico troupes spin down the streets performing to festive Mexican music. Celebration culminates with the crowning of Miss Fiestas Patrias.

### Okinawa Symposium

Date: Sep 17-18
City: Fredericksburg

Focuses on the final campaigns of World War II — the battle for Okinawa and the use of the atomic bombs. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Reservations required. Admiral Nimitz State Historic Site.

# Sixth Annual Houston Hot Sauce Festival

Date: Sep 17-18 City: <u>Houston</u>

Hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Houston Farm and Ranch Club. E-mail:

carol@houstonhotsauce.com

### **Comal County Fair**

Date: Sep 20-25
City: New Braunfels

Features a carnival, rodeo, livestock show, antique tractor pull and exhibits. Comal County Fair Grounds. E-mail: ccfa@nbtx.com

### **Pecan Festival**

**Date:** Sep 23-25

Includes carnival rides, arts & crafts, music and bands, Lions Park.

# "Austin City Limits" Music Festival

Date: Sep 23-25 City: Austin

Features more than 130 musical performances — on multiple stages — offering fans a mix of rock, roots, gospel, bluegrass, funk, hip-hop and other genres. Includes a vibrant art market, exceptional local food vendors and more. Zilker Park.

### Hill Country Cook-Off at San Marcos

Date: Sep 23-24
City: San Marcos

Enjoy live musical entertainment, including recording artist Kevin Fowler in San Marcos. Some of Texas' finest cooks compete in fajita, brisket, pork ribs, bean and chicken cook-offs. San Marcos Plaza. Email: cvb@sanmarcostexas.com

### Fredericksburg Saturday Night: American Music in the

Texas Hill Country

Date: Sep 24

City: Fredericksburg

Series of live music concerts features bluegrass, blues, soul, jazz, gospel, Cajun, zydeco and other American music styles. Begins at 5 p.m. Pioneer Museum, 309 W. Main St. E-mail: gchs@ctesc.net

### Gardens by Moonlight

Date: Sep 24
City: San Antonio

Enjoy a romantic evening under the stars with live music and gourmet food. San Antonio Botanical Gardens.

### IN & AROUND TEXAS CONTINUED

### Oak Tree Festival

**Date:** Sep 24-25

Features craft, jewelry and food vendors; live entertainment; children's area with clown, moon walk and train; and annual Little Miss and Little Mr. Oak Tree Pageant. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. League Park

Date: Sep 30-Oct2
City: Fredericksburg

Celebrate with German music and entertainment, lots of German food and drink, artisans and kinderpark. Hours are 6 p.m. to midnight Friday, 10 a.m. to midnight Saturday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. Marktplatz.

Date: Sep 24-25 City: Austin

Features more than 300 fine arts & crafts vendors from around the country, 40 food vendors selected for uniqueness, six stages with more than 100 bands, kids activities and much more. Historic Sixth Street. Email: info@roadstarproductions.com

#### Oktoberfest

**Date:** Sep 30-Oct1, 7-8

City: San Antonio

Family-oriented event offers authentic German music, food, drink, dance, and entertainment. Beethoven Halle und Garten.

#### **Gene Autry Music Festival**

Date: Sep 30-Oct2

Features a Tribute to Gene Autry Cowboy Gala, dinner, music and auction on Friday; chuck-wagon breakfast, music, arts & crafts, food vendors, western demonstrations and re-enactments on Saturday; and cowboy worship service on Sunday. Tioga Museum and Heritage Association. E-mail: info@geneautryfestival.com

### **Gulf Shrimp Festival**

Date: Oct 1
City: Brownsville

This fun event also raises awareness of the plight of the shrimping industry and its workers. Proceeds benefit scholarships for young adults involved in the shrimping industry. Dean Porter Park. E-mail: brownsvilleinfo@brownsville.org

#### **Farmers Market**

Date: Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

City: Brenham

Features a variety of food and craft vendors. Brenham's Farmers Market, 307 S. Park St. E-mail: info@brenhamtexas.com

#### Pumpkin Patch

Date: Oct 1-31 City: Boerne

Veteran's Park.

### **Down By The Riverside**

Date: Oct 1
City: Kerrville

Includes a plant sale, speakers, children's games, educational activities and food vendors.
Riverside Nature Center, 150
Francisco Lemos.

#### Fiddlin' Fest

Date: Oct 1-2 City: <u>Georgetown</u>

Call or visit Web site for information

### Fine Arts Festival

Date: Oct 1-2 City: Buda

Features artists from across Texas with works in medium of photography, pottery, oil, pastels, jewelry and mixed media. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Greenbelt in Downtown Buda.